

Message Text

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46 S
ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 NASA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SS-15 INR-07

INRE-00 L-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 IO-10 USIE-00

PA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 /062 W
----- 001032

O 111610Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9482
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652 : N/A
TAGS : ISPA, PFOR, AR
SUBJ: RETURN TO EARTH OF SKYLAB S-II BOOSETER

REF (A) A-6343 (1973); (B) STATE 3594, (C) STATE 4936

1. SUMMARY: BUENOS AIRES PRESS JAN 11 REPORTS SIGHTING AND POSSIBLE

LANDING OF SPACE OBJECTS NEAR CITY OF SAN RAFAEL IN MENDOZA PROVINCE.
SPECULATION IS THAT OBJECTS WERE PARTS OF SUBJECT BOOSTER. THERE ARE
NO RPT NO REPORTS OF DAMAGE, BUT SOME REPORTS OF WINDOWS BEING RATTLED.

NATIONAL GENDARMARIE AND/OR LOCAL POLICE MAY ATTEMPT TO LOCATE FALLEN
OBJECTS. ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFO REFTELS
(B) AND (C), END SUMMARY.

2. BUENOS AIRES PRESS OF JAN 11 CARRIES REPORT THAT, JUST AFTER
04:30 LOCAL TIME JAN. 10, A LUMINOUS OBJECT OF APPRECIABLE SIZE
WAS OBSERVED NEAR SAN RAFAEL, MENDOZA PROVINCE, TRAVELLING IN THE
SKY FROM THE NORTHWEST TOWARD THE SOUTHEAST AND, SOME 3 TO 4
MINUTES LATER, A LOUD CLATTER (ESTRUENDO) WAS HEARD.

3. SEVERAL MUNICIPAL WORKERS REPORTEDLY SAW THE OBJECT, AS DID NIGHT-
SHIFT WORKERS AT THE SAN RAFAEL SLAUGHTERHOUSE. SOME MOTORISTS
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ON ROUTE 40 REPORTEDLY ALSO SAW THE OBJECT. SOME REPORTS INDICATE

THAT THE OBJECT LANDED IN THE ANDES FOOTHILLS.

4. ALMOST ALL REPORTS DESCRIBE THE OBJECT AS AN INCANDESCENT MASS OF GREAT LUMINOSITY, FOLLOWED BY OTHER SMALLER "POINTS". SOME OBSERVERS DESCRIBED THE PHENOMENON AS QUOTE A SEISMIC WAVE WHICH SHOOK THE FLOOR AND RATTLED DOORS AND WINDOWS IN SAN RAFAEL UNQUOTE. APPARENTLY, NOT MANY PEOPLE NOTICED THIS, HOWEVER.

5. ONE REPORT INDICATES THAT WINDOWS ALSO RATTLED IN VILLA ATUEL AND JAIME PRATS.

6. THE PRESS REPORT, PRINCIPALLY FROM "LA NACION", GOES ON TO SAY THAT THE MALARGUE STATION OF THE NATIONAL GENDARMARIE AND LOCAL UNITS OF THE MENDOZA POLICE WERE TRYING TO DETERMINE THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE LANDING OF THE SPACE OBJECTS. ONCE THEY HAVE A CLEAR INDICATION OF THIS, THEY REPORTEDLY INTEND TO TRY TO REACH THIS SPOT TO ATTEMPT TO LEARN WHAT TRANSPRIRED.

7. REPORTS SPECULATE OF COURSE, THAT OBJECTS ARE PIECES OF THE NASA SKYLAB SATURN V, WHICH WAS SCHEDULED TO EARTH IMPACT AT ABOUT THIS TIME.

8. EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORIZATION RELEASE INFO REFTEL (B) AS REVISED REFTEL (C) TO HOST GOVERNMENT AND TO PRESS, ALL ON AN "IF ASKED" BASIS.
HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REENTRY VEHICLES, SPACE EXPLORATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: N/A
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05 JUL 2006

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